Mr. Chairman,

Members of the Board of Governors & the Faculty,

Graduating Students, Ladies & Gentlemen:

It is not an easy task to condense within the confines of a single five-minute report the manifold trends and events which constitute the academic year at Sir George Williams College. It may be an impossible one to present prosaic facts and figures in such a way that they provide a vista down which may be glimpsed the busy, active life which is the College.

For a College is more than mere numbers of students, professors and courses of study, classrooms and laboratories. All of these may exist, and there be still no college worthy of the name. A College consists rather in intangible and immeasurable things— in the gradual growth of boys and girls into mature young men and women, in the stimulating inter-play of mind upon mind and personality upon personality, in the spirit of intellectual inquiry and emotional discovery, in the community of interest which pervades the institution and strives toward the achievement of its major aims and purposes— these are the things which constitute the educational adventure which is a College.

The Academic year 1939-40, the 66th. in the annals of this educational branch of the Montreal Young Men's Christian Association, has been an important , perhaps momentous one. The demands made upon the College have been sufficient to tax to capacity its resources of equipment and personnel. Growth and expansion have continued, numbers have increased, staff enlarged, recognition widened. But ominously present in all the ordinary affairs of the College, present like a powerful undertone even in the lighter moments of student life, has been the sobering realization that our country is at war. Once again khaki has appeared

in the classroom, instructors are on leave of absence, and planning for the future has become fore-shortened in the on-rush of present events.

The College has been called upon to play an active and important part in the military work of the Young Men's Christian Association. Through the Military Services Sub-committee on Education, during the past eight months soldiers have been given instruction in many academic and vocational subjects. Attendance at these classes has totalled some ~~more than~~ 10,000 student hours since the beginning of the academic year, and has involved the part-time services of twenty-two teachers.

Few people, even among the student body, realize the extent of the activities of the College as a whole. ~~Even~~ We are accustomed to thinking of it as a small College--yet there were, at the close of the academic year, 2073 individual students enrolled in ~~the~~ its various units, and ~~It is only natural that the full day students would tend to forget the nearly 1500 young men and women who attend classes at night, after a full day's work in office, factory or store--yet~~ the ~~classrooms~~ 38 rooms of the College ~~plant~~ are in constant use from 9:00 o'clock in the morning until after 10:00 o'clock at night. Registration in the five separate units of the College during the ~~past~~ year ~~has been~~ was as follows:

	Day	Evening	Total.
1. Faculty of Arts, Science & Commerce	193	551	744
2. Evening High School	--	534	534
3. Evening Elementary School	--	45	45
4. Business School	330	490	820
5. School of Art	~~81~~ 77	59	~~140~~ 140
Total	604 ~~600~~	1479	~~2079~~ 2083

It is the most advanced of these academic units, the Faculty of Arts, Science and Commerce, which is here assembled to-night for its graduation ceremonies. But let it not be forgotten that from the lowly Evening Elementary School has already come one recipient of a bachelor's degree in our College, and that there are in Montreal dozens of lawyers, doctors, dentists, engineers, nurses, teachers, ministers, accountants, to whom these professions would have remained forever closed had it not been for the Evening High School.

It is, of course, ~~this unparalleled~~ the Faculty of Arts, Science and Commerce which has recorded the most phenomenal growth in the last decade. ~~since its inauguration in 1925.~~ Each of the ten academic years of its life, in spite of economic depression, has seen it move forward to new levels of achievement in both day and evening divisions. Of the 80 members of the instructional staff of the College, at the present time, about 45 are related to the Faculty of Arts, Science and Commerce. For purposes of its curriculum some 1400 volumes were added to the College library during the past year, laboratories were considerably improved, and a number of new courses of study added to deepen its programme of instruction.

For ten years the Faculty has been developing a programme of general college education in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. For ten years it has sought to attain in each student a happy balance between the demands of pre-vocational specialization and those of a comprehensive introduction to the many sides of modern life. The broad orientation of the student (culture, if you will) while still preparing him to make a living, has been the dual aim of the Faculty of Arts, Science and Commerce. Educational events of the past year, in Canada as well as in the United States, have done much to confirm our belief in the soundness of these original objectives.

No report of this kind would be complete without mentioning the increasingly important part being played by various student organizations in the life of the College. Their whole-hearted loyalty has been of inestimable value. One of the great educational opportunities in the Sir George Williams College has been that its students have been able to share with the Faculty and Board of Governors the task of building the College. There is a friendly and co-operative spirit abroad in the College which cannot be over-estimated as an environment for the social and intellectual development of young men and women. I trust that increasing numbers may do nothing to jeopardize this relationship.

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to tender to you and to the Board of Governors this brief and very inadequate report.

FOR INCLUSION IN METROPOLITAN ANNUAL REPORT

The academic year 1939-40 has been an important one in the annals of the Sir George Williams College. The demands made upon the College have been sufficient to tax to capacity its resouces of equipment and personnel. Growth and expansion have continued, numbers have increased, staff enlarged, recognition widened.

The College has been called upon to play an important and active part in the military work of the Young Men's Christian Association. Through the Military Services Sub-committee on Education, during the past eight months soldiers have been given instruction in many academic and vocational subjects. Attendance at these classes has totalled some 10,000 student hours since the beginning of the academic year, and has involved the part-time services of twenty-two teachers.

Few people, even among the student body, realize the extent of the activities of the College as a whole. We are accustomed to thinking of it as a small College--yet there were, at the close of the academic year, 2083 individual students enrolled in its various units, and the 38 rooms of the College plant were in constant use from 9:00 o'clock in the morning until after 10:00 o'clock at night. Registration in the five separate units of the College during the year was as follows:

	Day	Evening	Total
1. Faculty of Arts, Science & Commerce	193	551	744
2. Evening High School	—	334	334
3. Evening Elementary School	—	45	45
4. Business School	330	490	820
5. School of Art	81	59	140
Total	604	1479	2083

The Faculty of Arts, Science and Commerce, which has recorded the most phenomenal growth in the decade since its inauguration, has a tendency to be considered the most important, as it is the largest, unit in the College. For purposes of its curriculum some 1400 volumes were added to the College Library during the year - and some 45 of the 80 members of the instructional staff of the College as a whole are related to its classes. Yet the importance of the Evening High School, the Evening Elementary School, the School of Art and the Business School must not be overlooked. The Business School of the College, in its Day Division, made remarkable improvements in both curriculum and method, following an extensive study of this type of vocational education in all its phases. This process is being continued. Some indication of the volume of work in the College is given in the following attendance figures:

	1939-40	1938-39
Student-hours	439,490	251,174
Extra-curricular activities, approx. participation	25,000	20,000
Total attendance	464,490	271,174
Instructor-hours	25,090	18,500

Extra-curricular student activities continued to gain in volume and cohesiveness, adding immeasurably to the life and spirit of the College. There is a friendly and cooperative spirit abroad in the College which cannot be over-estimated as an environment for the social and intellectual development of young men and women. It is to be hoped that increasing numbers may do nothing to jeopardize this relationship.